MARVEL 003

FALL OF X

DUGGAN
LAISO
HOLLOWELL

UNCANNY AVENGERS

FALL OF X-MEN

To foster unity between humanity and the mutant nation of Krakoa, Earth's mightiest heroes, the Avengers, and the mutant X-Men formed a single team to help defend the Earth. Together, they are the…

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LUNAR AVENGERS

03

"THE ARROGANTS"

In response to rising anti-mutant sentiment, **Captain America** re-formed the **Avengers Unity Squad,** recruiting former members of both the **X-Men** who remained on Earth and the **Avengers. Rogue** challenged Captain America's leadership while he in turn sought out journalist **Ben Urich's** aid in exposing the anti-mutant organization **Orchis.**

The mysterious **Captain Krakoa** was revived by Orchis to sow further distrust against mutants. Captain Krakoa formed a new iteration of the terrorist **Mutant Liberation Front,** and together they stole a nuclear weapon, which they have planted at Empire State University!

1__[PSYLOCKE]
2__[PENANCE]
3__[CAPTAIN AMERICA]
4__[DEADPOOL]
5__[QUICKSILVER]
6__[ROGUE]
7__[BLACK WIDOW]

Gerry Duggan/Writer
Emilio Laiso/Artist
Morry Hollowell/Color Artist
VC's Travis Lanham/Letterer
Tom Muller & Jay Bowen/Design

Javier Garrón & **Morry Hollowell**
/Cover Artists

Cory Smith & Federico Blee; Matteo Scalera & Moreno Dinisio; Rob Liefeld
/Variant Cover Artists

Martin Biro/Assistant Editor
Annalise Bissa/Associate Editor
Tom Brevoort/Editor
C.B. Cebulski/Editor in Chief

Avengers created by
Stan Lee & **Jack Kirby**

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[03_____x_men]

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[_____X]

Ellis Island.

BLAM

Hmm. You sure you're not peeking, Widow?

Not since I put on the blindfold.

Nothing sexier than a woman with a blindfold and a sniper rifle.

Stop talking, Deadpool.

We made a mistake asking Captain America to come off the front lines.

Imagine whoever is running around dressed as Captain Krakoa kills him-- we won't just be fighting Orchis, we'll be fighting *everyone!*

Steve's in trouble, y'all--he just sent another distress code!

Catch up with me as fast as you can!

"Catch up with you"?! Puhlease!

Ah didn't know this was a race, Quicksilver. Don't let me slow you down.

I've got eyes on Cap, and--***uh-oh***--this is worse than I feared.

Humans like their symbolism.

Captain America decided to call a press conference at the burned-out former home of the X-Men.

An Orchis base had been stationed nearby. Only one man could destroy it by speaking his mind.

Good afternoon. My name is Steve Rogers, but I think most folks know me better as Captain America.

I just did something I have always told my fellow Avengers would get them kicked off the team...

...I sent a distress signal to make them think I was in mortal danger.

I did it for a good reason. I wanted you all to meet the heroes who are willing to rush headfirst into danger to save me.

You'll notice a *lot* of mutants among this iteration of the Unity Squad.

The mutants attacked us!

It does *seem* like that, but in this country, we have a ***presumption of innocence.*** No one has been convicted in a court of law for the attacks at the Hellfire Gala or in Washington, DC.

I don't know who is currently wearing the stolen armor of Captain Krakoa-- but it's *not* Cyclops, and I don't think it's a mutant at all.

SPLAP

I'll teach you to waste food.

Deadpool.

As I was saying, I think divisions in this country are being sowed by those who will benefit by fracturing us.

My America celebrated our independence, not just as a country, but as individuals as well.

In this country, we are all promised life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. The chance to be the person we were born to be.

I didn't grow up afraid of our differences.

Orchis Headquarters.

This @##$% man is out there just *killing* us!

What about our guy? Where is he, Dr. Stasis?

Well, Captain Krakoa's a little off-script at the moment, Feilong. He swiped a nuclear bomb... it's all a bit of a disaster!

We'll clean it all up. We'll need a big trial. Cyclops. Or Xavier.

I volunteered to fight for this country when we were attacked by an axis of ethnostates. You might be surprised, then, that I was a believer in Krakoa.

Back when I first went to war--

The muties ain't even American, man. They turned their back on America. You look in the mirror lately? You've got a big "A" on your head.

I'll be honest with you, I was unhappy that my mutant friends felt that their health and safety couldn't be guaranteed in this country.

That they needed something more than America, well...that was a shame.

I'm loyal to the dream...

...and America needs to hear the truth in order to be ***better.*** That truth is that the American dream isn't the promise it should be because fear is being weaponized.

Americans shouldn't be afraid of different races.

Americans don't need to be afraid of the poor and addicted.

Americans shouldn't be afraid of what you're reading.

Americans shouldn't be afraid of what you're wearing.

Americans shouldn't be afraid of differences, political or otherwise.

Americans shouldn't be afraid of how someone else lives...

...or someone else loves.

And I think we should always have some healthy skepticism for folks who ask you to be afraid of the person standing next to you.

Always ask why.

Which brings me to mutants. My teammates, and my friends.

I'm skeptical of the official story, and I'm very concerned about Orchis. They're being less than honest.

And that's my truth.

Ugh. I love this guy.

I hope he leads an X-Men team next.

He *already* is.

Well, that was a very nice speech. I'm sorry I threw my malt at you, but I've always hated the X-Men.

Can I give you dry-cleaning money?

No need, ma'am.

I understand your anger, and no, you may not. Thank you for apologizing.

Nice speech, Cap. I figure it'll put a bee in some bonnets.

Good, Mr. Urich.

I've got a meeting later that might be of interest to you, if you're planning to work late tonight.

Need a favor, Rogue.

Can you get word to the X-Men that we understand there was a human witness to the events of the massacre at the gala, someone who can refute the story that Orchis is telling?

I'd like to introduce that witness to Ben Urich of the *Daily Bugle*.

Steve, first: Ah'll never be able to thank you for what you just did for us...

...but Ah wasn't at the gala when the X-Men escaped, Ah dunno if--

Rogue, if the X-Men trust me, then they need to share the witness. For all our sakes.

Of course.

Ah'm on it, Cap.

Captain, Quicksilver and I have a lead to follow up on.

What? We do?

Finding the new MLF is the highest priority, Monet. Stay in touch.

Washington, DC. The mall near K Street.

You could've simply asked me to bring you here.

Oh.

A perfumery?

You didn't just commandeer me to take you shopping, did you?

You're not fast in any way that counts, are you?

See here, woman. I will suffer no more of your taunts.

Shh, Pietro...

...just give in to my plan.

If you want to run around a lot and accomplish very little, you may go...

If you're staying, you do as I tell you. Now go disguise us both.

Watch your tongue.

Good boy.

Now, when we fought Fenris, I smelled something I hadn't smelled in years: a perfume that my father bought my mother. This row of stores caters to royalty and diplomats. My parents were ***both.***

I trust they were as infuriating as you too?

You should be so lucky as to find out.

Oh. I've miscalculated.

Hnh. Do tell.

Fenris is here now!

I told you we shouldn't have returned, Andrea. Where there are two, there are more.

Shush, Andreas. The only thing I see of importance--

-- is the load-bearing column!

SKRABOOM

I've got the column.

Get everyone out of the building.

So-- what gave us away?

The perfume.

Of course.

It is decadent.

You Von Struckers are betraying your own kind!

Aargh!

Unhg!

And, Monet, you may join me in the physical rebukes of these zealots--

--I've found a construction site a few miles away and will begin making the necessary quick repairs.

I don't care for violence...

KRIK

...but I'm going to make an exception for you two.

S-stay back!

And no more hand-holding!

You two deserve each other.

Who is he?

WHAP

Who is Captain Krakoa?

Y-you bwoke my node!

I'll do *worse* than that.

Where is Captain Krakoa? Where's the bomb?!

Get off!

How pathetic.

They've been trained to resist telepathic interrogation. Talk. Or I send Quicksilver to fetch Psylocke.

I'm sure you mean "ask nicely."

H-he'll kill us.

Hnh.

M, let me lead the dance.

No, we're just--

The column-- it's giving way!

Dammit. I have it again.

I'll clear the building. We'll catch up to Fenris.

You're a sloppy construction worker, Quicksilver. Now, aren't you going to help me?

Not yet. Not until they're a bit farther away, I think.

You...planted your Avengers I.D. card on one of them and then kicked the bricks out.

I put mine on the brother... and I put *yours* on her.

Watch your hands.

You did good, Quicksilver.

I'm *always* good, M.

SWAK

Now get us back to Ellis Island before Fenris discovers what we've done--

--and *watch your hands.*

Meanwhile, at the office of the *Daily Bugle*.

Hello, Mr. Urich.

I've arranged a meeting with the witness whom the X-Men are protecting.

That's great, Cap.

I'll really think about my questions, and I'd like to schedule that interview soon.

Well, then you're in luck. Even I don't know the identity of the X-Men's witness, but-- the good news is they agreed to meet you if I was here as well.

Captain Rogers. Mr. Urich...

Oh, oh my god.

...I couldn't help but overhear your chat, and since I'm risking life and limb by going on the record, we should be sure that every detail is one hundred percent ***truthful.***

So I would like to correct one misunderstanding from the beginning. The X-Men are not protecting me...

...it is ***I, Wilson Fisk,*** who is protecting the X-Men.

NEXT:

THE WORST PERSON YOU KNOW JUST MADE A GREAT POINT!

rAkoA is for all

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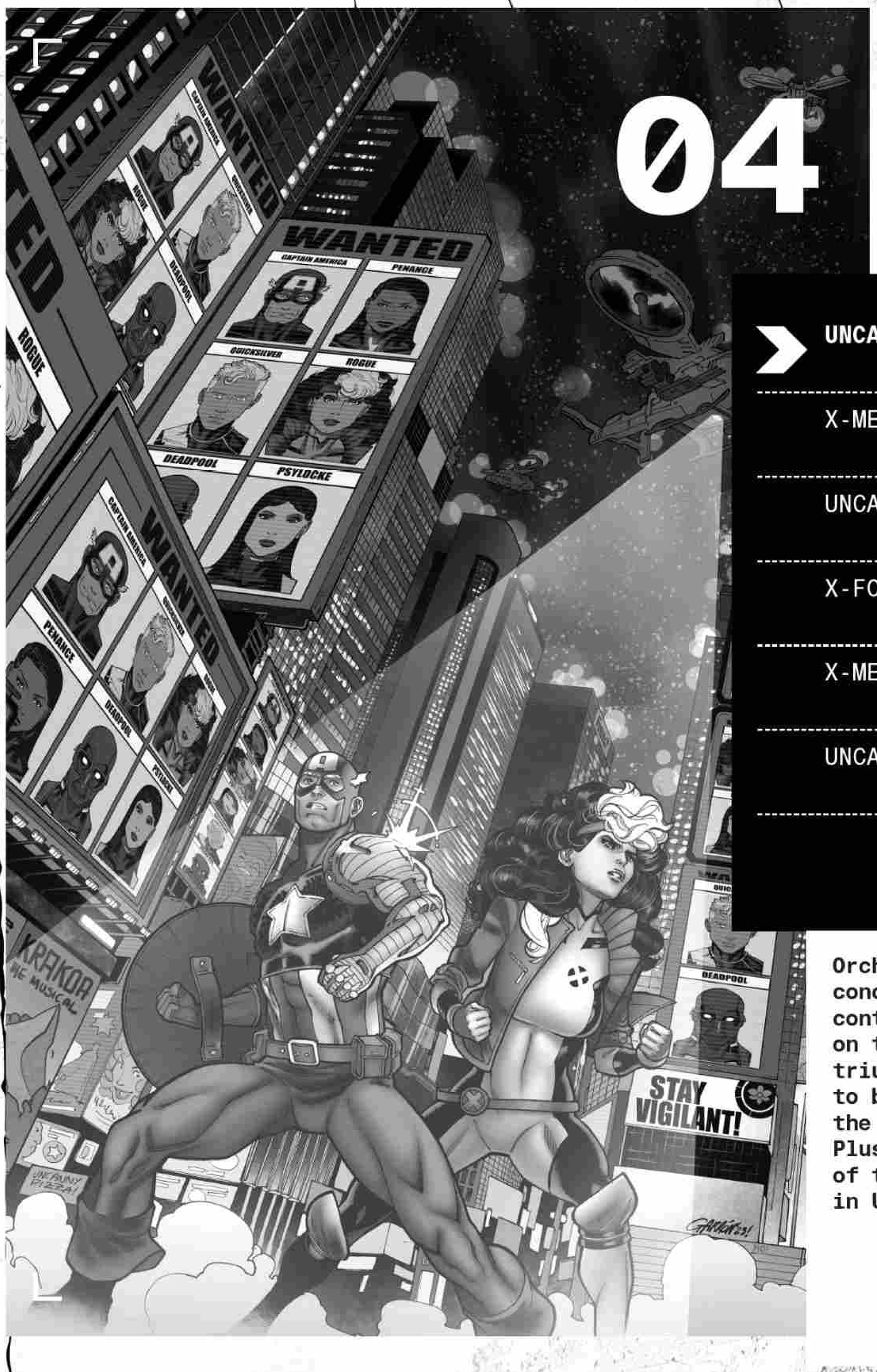
FOLLOW THE FALL:



- UNCANNY AVENGERS #3
- X-MEN #28
- UNCANNY SPIDER-MAN #3
- X-FORCE #46
- X-MEN RED #17
- UNCANNY AVENGERS #4

Orchis comes to the conclusion that they cannot control Captain Krakoa, and on the eve of his greatest triumph, with the world about to burn, they must turn to… the Avengers Unity Squad? Plus, witness the blooming of the unlikeliest romance in UNCANNY AVENGERS history!

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Uncanny Avengers Assemble! Email us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM and mark your messages “Okay to Print” for a chance to see them answered in future issues!